

10/636.015

Remarks/arguments:

Examiner Tibbits is thanked for the courtesies she extended the undersigned attorney and his associate during a very helpful meeting on July 10, 2006. During the interview the objection to the phrase "multiple-prong plug" was discussed. This phrase has now been replaced with --multi-pin plug--. It is believed that this change should overcome the examiner's objection. Accordingly, the examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the objection to the drawings.

The issue concerning new matter was discussed. The language in the claims has been changed to avoid this rejection. Thus the phrase "interchangeable with" has been changed to --structurally connectable--. The examiner has also objected to the phrase "The modules may be used in different pairings". However, it was demonstrated that the modules may be used in different pairings. It is respectfully submitted that the language now in the description and claims do not introduce new matter. Accordingly, the examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the objection based on new matter.

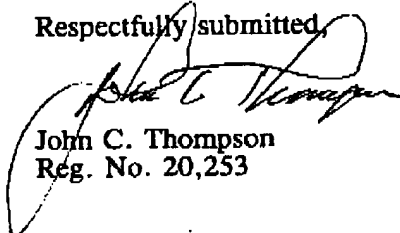
The description and the claims have been amended in a manner suggested by the examiner to overcome other defects noted by the examiner and to more clearly set forth applicant's invention. Claim 1 now specifies that the apparatus includes "a hand-held module (10) for the photopolymerization of dental materials." Other changes suggested by the examiner have been incorporated into amended claim 1 as well as additional dependant claims.

The principal reference applied against claim 1, from which all other claims depend, is Duret WO 01/60280. Claim 1 has been amended to set forth "at least two or more additional modules that are structurally connectable for assembly with the handheld module, the additional modules including a base station module (30), a data/electrical connection module (24), a service module (62), and a storage battery module (22)" in combination with "a hand-held module (10) for the photopolymerization of dental materials,...and a data bus (46) and electrical connections (48) provided between at least two modules (10, 22; 10, 24; 10, 62; 22, 30; 30, 24; 30, 62) via which data, in particular control data for the hand-held module (10), is transferable." This combination of features is not taught by Duret. The secondary reference fail to make up the defect in the primary reference. Accordingly, the allowance of claim 1 and of its dependant claims over the prior art of record is respectfully requested.

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In that this application is deemed to avoid the various objections and rejections raised by the examiner, the allowance of this application is respectfully requested in the absence of more relevant prior art.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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